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FLASHBACK

Journal of
the Washington County Historical Society

Volume 59 **Summer 2009** **Number 2**

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Cover: Grade I, Washington School, ca. 1897.
(Photo courtesy: Special Collections, University of Arkansas Libraries (Pic 5475)

Fayetteville's Old Schools

J.B. Hogan*

In the early 1950s, Fayetteville's public school system was much smaller than it is today. There were only six public schools: four elementary schools – Washington, Jefferson, Leverett, Lincoln, and West Side (soon to be replaced by Bates, all of which taught grades one through eight) – and the high school, which had grades nine through twelve.

The first public school in Fayetteville was Henderson School, originally called "The Mission School for Negro Only," built in 1866 near the corner of Lafayette and Olive streets. In the late 1800s, the school for Fayetteville's black children was renamed for "District Superintendent" Ebenezer E. Henderson, who came to Fayetteville in 1866 to organize the school district.[1]

The brick remains of Henderson School, which was later replaced by Lincoln School, can still be seen today as part of a private residence on Olive Street. In the old days of segregated education, black students wishing to continue their schooling past the eighth grade had to either be home schooled, privately taught, or attend a black high school in another town such as Fort Smith.

Washington School, the second oldest public school in town and, also known long ago as the North or North Side School, originally stood about where it stands today in the block bounded by Lafayette and Maple on the south and north sides, respectively, and by Highland and Forest on the east and west sides. The original Washington School was built in 1885 by Albert M. Byrnes and the first classes were held there in 1886.[2]

By the late 1920s, however, city officials and the school board felt that the Washington School building needed more than just renovation. During 1930 and into early 1931, the "new" Washington was completed

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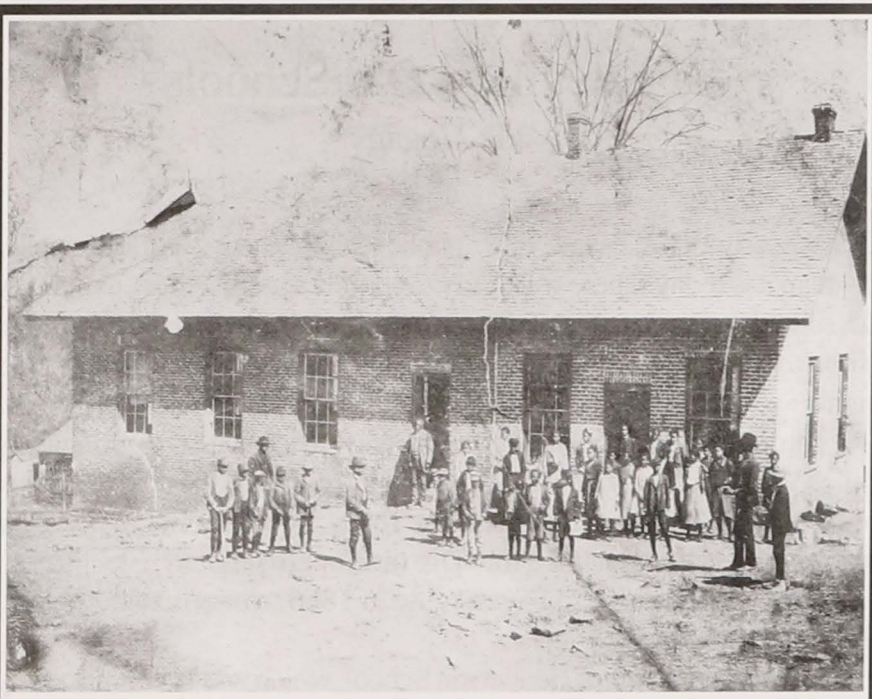
*The author is a frequent contributor to the *Flashback*. His most recent article on the theaters of Fayetteville appeared in the winter 2008 of *Flashback*.



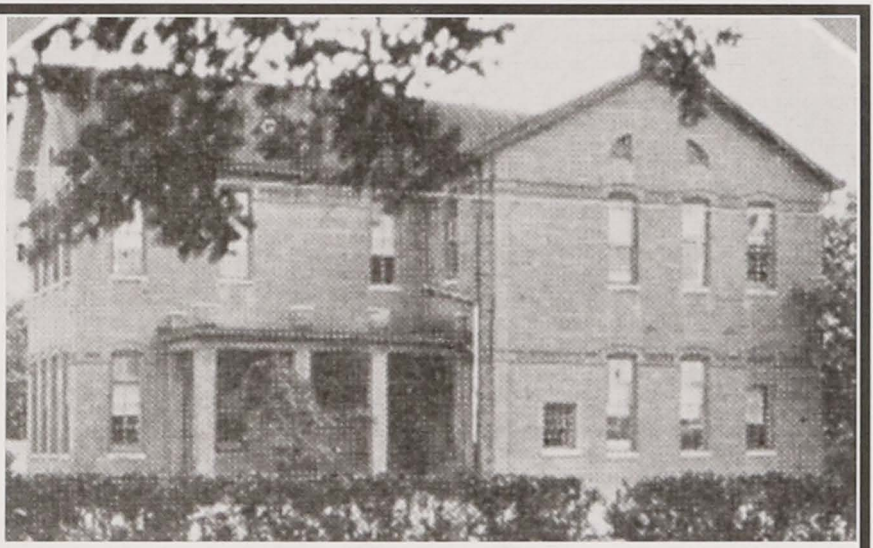
Henderson School, ca. 1890
Courtesy Shiloh Museum of Ozark History /
Washington County Historical Society Collection (P-14)

by E. V. Bird Construction. The school we know today, which faces Highland, was constructed slightly up the hill from the "old" school, which faced Lafayette. According to the *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, first classes were held in the "modern" Washington School on Monday, February 16, 1931. The school is still open today.

The original Jefferson, or South Side, School was built in 1890 – again by Albert M. Byrnes – and was located just across South Street, to the southeast, from where Church Street intersects. The old Jefferson, like the one that replaced it, was made of red bricks. The west side of the old building was supported by three brick columns.

Work on the "new" Jefferson, also built by E. V. Bird Construction, was begun in 1929 on the southeast corner of the intersection of South College and Sixth Streets. As described in the *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, the first students to attend the new school did so on Thursday, February 19, 1931. Although it closed as an elementary school after the

Washington School, 1886
Courtesy Shiloh Museum of Ozark History /
Washington County Historical Society Collection (P-7)



Jefferson School, ca. 1928
From *One Hundred Years of Fayetteville, 1828-1928*

2005-2006 school year, the "new" Jefferson School building still stands today and is currently used as an Adult Education Center.

In 1935, some of the bricks from the old Jefferson School (the one at South and Church) were used in the construction of a new school. This school was located on South Willow Street as it heads up the hollow towards the heart of Tin Cup, the historically predominantly black section of town. The new school was named Lincoln and it replaced the older Henderson School.

The first principal of Lincoln School was Herman Caldwell. Lincoln provided Fayetteville's black children with public education until 1965 when the last of the city's elementary schools integrated. With integration, the need for a separate building for Fayetteville's African-American students disappeared. During the 1970s, its purpose having ended, Lincoln School was demolished.[3]

On the northwest side of town, Leverett School, like the old Washington and Jefferson schools, has provided education for Fayetteville children since the late 1800s. The original Leverett School was built by Albert M. Byrnes in 1899 and was located at 1006 W. Maple on the northeast corner of Garland and Maple, where a University of Arkansas law building stands today. Directly across the street from old Leverett

Jefferson School, ca. 1940
Courtesy Special Collections,
University of Arkansas Libraries,
(MC 1427 Box 8 file 10)

School on the northwest corner of Garland and Maple was a large cemetery (College Cemetery)[4], a fact now almost universally forgotten.[5]

The "new" Leverett School, on the northwest corner of Cleveland (formerly York) and Garland Streets, opened for classes, according to the *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, on Monday, September 4, 1939. Leverett School, built by E. V. Bird Construction, still stands at the same location today and is fully operational.

Constructed in 1923 on Stone Street – for $20,000 and not by A. M. Byrnes – the West Side School provided education for the children of Fayetteville's southwest side. The West Side School was eventually replaced by Bates School but it still stands today as the Administration Building for the current Fayetteville High School.

Bates School, which was built specifically to replace West Side, held its first classes on Monday, September 10, 1951, according to the *Northwest Arkansas Times*. Located at Highway 62 West (Sixth Street)

Leverett School, ca. 1928
From *One Hundred Years of Fayetteville, 1828-1928*

West Side School, ca. 1928
From *One Hundred Years of Fayetteville, 1828-1928*

and Buchanan Street, Bates educated children on the west side of town until 2000. It is no longer an elementary school but the building is currently being used as a Fayetteville High School Annex.

As for the old Fayetteville High School, it was a beautiful brick structure also built by Albert M. Byrnes in 1908. As the town grew and more space was needed for the expanding student body, annexes were added to the original building. The north annex was added in 1925 and the south annex in 1927.[6]

In 1953, Fayetteville had grown enough to require a new high school, and the current Fayetteville High School was built up on the hill above Bates School facing Stone Street. With the advent of the new high school, the old building on School Street was used as Fayetteville Junior High.

The last of the pre-1960 elementary schools to be built in town was Root School, which opened in 1955. The school, located on Mission Boulevard (Highway 45) a short distance east of Old Wire Road, was designed by T. Ewing Shelton. The first day of classes, according to the *Northwest Arkansas Times*, was Monday, September 12, 1955. The paper pointed out that of the 203 students attending the new Root School, a considerable number of them had transferred in from Washington School. Root School is still active today

By the late-1950s, junior high attendance had increased so much from the influx of students funneled into it from the several elementary schools

that annex buildings were added on the east side of West Street just past Meadow Street below the school.

Responding to the rapid growth of students from the "Baby Boomer" generation, in the fall of 1959 Fayetteville added the new Woodland Junior High School on Poplar Street just off North College. Woodland, like Root School, was designed by T. Ewing Shelton. It opened for classes – even though construction was not quite complete – on Friday, September 18, 1959 with Benny Winborn as principal. It is still an active school today.

At the same time Woodland Junior High was opened, Fayetteville Junior High School on School Street was renamed Hillcrest Junior High School. Hillcrest lasted until the spring of 1966 when it was closed. That fall, Ramay Junior High School – named after long-time Fayetteville and Hillcrest Junior High principal M. O. Ramay – opened on the west side of town.

Fayetteville High School, ca. 1907
Courtesy Shiloh Museum of Ozark History /
Bob Besom Collection (S-82-213-32)

Fayetteville High School, 1920s

Courtesy Shiloh Museum of Ozark History /
Washington County Historical Society Collection (P-153)

Three years later, on June 13, 1969, the building that had once been Fayetteville High School, then Fayetteville and finally Hillcrest Junior High School burned down. The building was soon razed and replaced by Hillcrest Towers, a high rise retirement community. Currently, the "new" FHS on Stone Street, now over fifty-five years old itself, faces possible closure in order to build and open a modern, state-of-the-art high school.

Should Fayetteville High close to make way for a new high school, the city would then have just four schools left from the old days. Root School and Woodland Junior High from the mid- to late 1950s, and Washington and Leverett, taking us all the way back to the 1930s and – for those old enough to recall – even further back into our educational past.

End Notes

[1]William S. Campbell, *One Hundred Years of Fayetteville, 1828-1928* a—*f*55.

[2]*Ibid*, p. 56.

[3]Washington County Retired Teacher's Association, *School Days, School Days, The History of Education in Washington County, 1830-1950*, Fayetteville, AR, 1986.

[4]Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Fayetteville, AR, July 1913.

[5]Anthony J. Wappel, "College Cemetery: A Second Look," *Flashback*, Vol. 38, No. 3, August 1988, pp. 6-12. See also, *Cemetery Records of Washington County, Arkansas*, Volume 1 (unpaginated), published by Washington County Historical Society, Fayetteville, Arkansas (undated). The College Cemetery was created in the 1870s and was at the Maple and Garland location until the 1920s when the graves were moved to other cemeteries.

[6]Campbell, p. 56.

History of the Zion-Oakland Community, Washington County, Arkansas, District #11

Lloyd O. Warren*

When legal settlement of Washington County was permitted by the Federal Government in 1828 there is the likelihood migrants were already in the area and were aware that the area to be known as Zion was a promising site for the production of food crops. The sociological factors that resulted in the development of the community are vague and lost in antiquity. The identities of the early settlers can be determined but the pathway to the formation of the community is not well known. However, based on available facts certain assumptions can be made. Among these was the desire of the early settlers to have a place of worship and secondly, to provide a site for instruction where at least the rudiments of reading, writing and arithmetic could be taught to the children living in the area. Such a facility would give the community a place to meet together to socialize and build a community spirit.

During 1848-1850, a log cabin with a dirt floor was built about 1 1/2 miles east of the location of the present church and school buildings. The exact location is no longer identifiable but is thought to have been on or near the current Guy Terry Road either on "The Old Lemons" place or the Rariden farm nearby. The furniture in the log building was made of split logs and served both the church congregation and doubled as desks for the young pupils who attended the community's first school. The school was likely a subscription school as the state had not yet established a viable system of financial support for a public school system.

The Zion Methodist Church was organized in 1850 under the leadership of Reverend John S. McCarver as pastor. Charter members included Mr. & Mrs. Richard Cardwell, Mr. and Mrs. William Eidson, Mr. & Mrs. William

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*The author is a resident of Fayetteville. This article is adapted from a presentation given by the author at the Zion reunion in 1986, with additional research from other historical reports.

Cardwell, Mr. & Mrs. Wilson Gage, Mr. & Mrs. David Williford, Mr. & Mrs. James Ford, Mary J. Routh and Jake Fox. A better place of worship was needed so on land donated by Lee Blakemore the main section of the present building was erected in 1857. The trustees to whom the deed was transferred were: William H. Cardwell, Richard W. Cardwell, Johnson N. Roberts, James Ford and William H. Eidson.

Stones for the foundation were obtained nearby. Sills were cut from oak trees growing on the church grounds. Other materials were hauled from the Van Winkle saw mill located on the War Eagle River some distance north east of the church site. The small chapel, that faced west, has undergone renovations and now the main entryway faces east. [Detailed church records are non-existent as far as can be determined by this writer.] The church suffered a decline in support financially and in membership and in 1942 became inactive. Following the end of World War II the church was re-activated with Reverend Richard Whitman as pastor. In 1955, the church became inactive again. In order to save the facility from destruction the building and land was purchased by Otis Cardwell and placed in perpetual trust for the benefit of the community. The trust includes the cemetery grounds also.

Prior to the establishment of a funded public school system in the county much of the educational effort was done by individuals paid by subscription fees by the parents of the pupils and the "meeting" house was often used for the dual function of school and church. John Phillips and A.J. Hale, in 1867, were teachers that held subscription school classes for children in the community. A. J. Hale evidently lived in the adjacent Sons Chapel area for in 1873 he was appointed a trustee of Sons Chapel School, District Four, and on his death was buried in the Sons Chapel Cemetery.

In 1884 Washington County defined the boundaries of the various common school districts including Zion, District 11. The school continued to use the church building for school activities until 1897. A portion of the church property was transferred to the school district where a one-room school was erected. Later a second story was added to the building to serve as a meeting place for the local Odd Fellows Lodge. When the number of pupils in the school increased it became necessary to add a second class room and the upper floor was eliminated in the 1920s. In 1948 the small rural school districts were integrated into the larger more heavily populated districts resulting in the Zion district merging into the Springdale system in June 1949. The school property then became the property of the Grange and was used for a period of time by the Zion-Oakland chapter that became

inactive during the 1990s. An effort was made to sell the property but community spirit to save the structure for community use prevailed, the Grange was reactivated and the historic structure is still used for local affairs in 2008.

As churches were organized the establishment of a cemetery adjacent to the church building was a common practice. At Zion, the cemetery was not established until 1898 when William Eidson deeded land he owned adjacent to the Zion Methodist Church for a cemetery. It is believed that his wife was the first person to be buried in it. One only has to stroll through the cemetery to find the names of many early settlers who left their stamp on the community and who contributed to its history.

Not all residents of the Zion community were of the Methodist faith. Many were of the Baptist faith and since there were no churches of that faith in the immediate vicinity, local area Baptists traveled to Baptist churches in nearby communities-these included Friendship Baptist Church, organized in 1847, Mount Vernon Baptist Church in the Habberton Community, organized in 1849 and Shady Grove Baptist Church organized about 1886. Since attendance at these churches entailed rather lengthy travel interest

Zion School, ca. 1900
Courtesy Shiloh Museum of Ozark History /
Washington County Collection (P-1057)

developed among some of the Baptist citizens to organize a Baptist church in the Zion community. Thus it was that 20 members of the Shady Grove Baptist church living in the Zion community met in the Zion Schoolhouse and organized the Oakland Missionary Baptist Church January 19, 1910. Revs. L.L. Johnson and L.S. Ballard of the Fayetteville Baptist Association assisted in the organizational ceremonies. The new church proceeded to build their church house about a mile south of the Methodist church and the Zion school house. Lee Cates donated the land for the church building, The John Jazor Warren family donated land for the parking lot, John Ivey gave land for the Oakland Cemetery. The Oakland Baptist Church dissolved in the 1970s. The Benton County Baptist Association took ownership of the building and established a new congregation called Oak Chapel Baptist Church that used the building a few years before moving to another location. The building was left empty for a time before being put to use by a congregation of immigrants from the Marshall Islands.

With urban sprawl creeping out from Fayetteville and Springdale what was once a major agricultural area for the county has changed drastically and is primarily a "bedroom" for the cities. The land that was once covered by orchards, grape vineyards, fields of strawberries, grain, vegetables and pasture is largely covered by herbaceous vegetation, and some livestock production. While the number of families has increased the number of offspring per family has declined. A high proportion of the adults are employed in businesses in the cities nearby. The children attend schools where the enrollment may be in the hundreds or more in contrast to a maximum enrollment in schools like Zion where the enrollment was in the 30-50 range at the most. The residents in districts like Zion, prior to the 1950s, were interactive socially especially the younger people. Even though the residents were divided between the Methodists and Baptists that factor did not inhibit friendships and social interaction. When the Methodist church held revival meetings many attendees were from the Baptist faith and when the Baptist church held special meetings the Methodists reciprocated thus an excellent community spirit prevailed for many years. Annually the community reunion has participants whose family background may be imbedded in either the Methodist Church at Zion or in the Oakland Baptist Church. Due to the influx of citizens with a different family heritage the strong community spirit no longer exists in what was once an important civic center that now is nothing much more that a suburb of Springdale and Fayetteville.

The Western Empire

Editorial Notes from the Beautiful Ozark Region of Northwestern Arkansas. A Charming Country Abundant in Agricultural Resources, Luxuriant Grasses, Splendid Fruits , Noble Forests, Clear Streams and Springs, Superb Water Power and Delightful Landscapes. Washington and Benton Counties. An Outline of Their Towns, People, Industries, Railways, Educational, Religious and Social Advantages, Commercial, Official and Professional Ways. The Home of the Stock-Grower—Cheap Lands, Cheap Houses, Free Grazing and Fine Openings in Every Line of Life, For Good Men, in One of the Most Beautiful and Healthful Regions of the Continent.

After months of editorial wandering and sight-seeing along the Ozark Plateau of Southwest Missouri , with which the readers of the Industrial World are grown familiar, the writer is pleased to give an outline of the beautiful region known as the Boston Mountains, which is simply a range of the Ozark hills, lying in

NORTHWESTERN ARKANSAS,

*This article is reprinted from the *Industrial World and Commercial Advertiser*, December 8, 1881. The editor has retained the format of the original, but the Benton County section has not been reprinted.

and drained by the White river and its tributaries. It is no exaggeration to say of this region, that for delightful climate, beauty of scene, wealth of soil, forest and grasses, variety of native and domestic productions and the abundance and purity of its winters, it is unsurpassed by any country of similar extent in the "Great Southwest." This letter will be confined to

WASHINGTON AND BENTON COUNTIES,

which are situated in the extreme northwest corner of Arkansas. WASHINGTON COUNTY, the more southerly of the two counties, was organized in 1835, has an area of 552,000 acres and is bounded on the north by Benton county, on the west by the flowing landscape of the Indian Territory, on the south by Crawford county and on the east by Madison county.

THE CLIMATE

is a benediction. The county lies a little south of the southern lines of Kentucky and Virginia, in the equable menn? Between the colder north and the heat and humidity of the lower south, has a mean altitude of 1,400 feet above the tides, and a mean temperature of less than 40 degrees, and has long, genial, growing summers, whose bright breezy days and cool restful nights are the delight of all visitors from the higher latitudes. The winter season is short, open, mild and dry, with light, infrequent and transient snow-fall. The rarity, crispness and tone of the atmosphere; the freedom from malaria-breeding swamps and marshes; the purity of the water, rapidity of the streams and perfect natural drainage of the country give

THE HIGHEST MEASURE OF BREATH

and longevity known to the continent. Epidemic disease, either among men or animals, is rarely known and the dry invigorating and equable climate is almost a certain cure for visiting subjects of consumption, asthma, bronchial affections and kindred ills. No pen or pencil can give adequate portraiture to the

TOPOGRAPHICAL CHARMS

of this region. The eastern, northern and southern portions of the county break into grand well-rounded wooded hills, traversed by the White and Illinois rivers and their tributaries, whose accompanying broad valleys and bottoms are as fairns Cashmere and as fertile as the Nile. These hills abound in graceful slopes, minor valleys and ravines, and firm Arabic tables, all susceptible of easy and high cultivation. The western, northwestern and northern portions are mainly constituted of hickory and oak "barrens" and prairies, with occasional sharp battles and small bluffs, with lime intervening tables, graceful undulations and pretty valleys.

THE WATER SUPPLY

is alike ample and admirable. The White and Illinois rivers, with scores of their tributary creeks and spring brooks, reach into every portion of the county. Many of these streams are of strong volume and current, affording valuable permanent water power. There are

HUNDREDS OF CLEAR SPRINGS

flowing in splendid volume from the lime and sand-stone formations that underlie most of the county, scarcely a farm or ordinary size being without one, ore more, of these superb living fountains. The county is

PINELY WOODED

with oak, hickory, walnut, elm, maple, linden, sycamore, sassafras, birch, pecan, cherry, mulberry, honey locust, hackberry, pine, red bud, paw paw, and other varieties of the latitude. The forests, which cover four-fifths of the county, abound in

SUPERIOR COMMERCIAL TIMBER

for hewing and sawing, and the day is not distant when the export of walnut, cherry, oak, linden, maple and pine lumber will give the county an immense annual revenue. There is

NO END OF FINE BUILDING STONE,

every portion of the county abounding in superior, well stratified lime and sandstones which are easily quarried at the frequent outercroppings in the gulches and ravines. The presence

OTHER MINERALS

such as iron, lead, zinc, fire and potters clay, with the relations of the county to the great mineral ranges on either side, give a well rounded hope of new wealth from this source in the near future.

THE SOILS

of this region are a mine of wealth in comparison with which all other local resources drop into insignificance. Three-fifths of the county is smooth enough for profitable cultivation and has depth, variety and wealth of soil to develop a race of opulent farmers.

THE VALLEYS AND BOTTOMS

of the numerous streams range from half a mile to two miles in width for miles and miles in extent, have a rich, dark, flexible alluvial of great depth and inexhaustible fertility and grow enormous crops of corn, wheat, oats, hemp and everything produced in this country. These wonderfully rich valleys are made up from the wash and accretions of the rich hillsides for ages, are absolutely inexhaustible, and will grow heavy crops for centuries, without a sign of diminution. The slopes and tables of

THE UPLANDS

have a rich reddish or chocolate colored soil, largely composed of siliceous matter, lime and magnesia carbonate, lime phosphate, alumina and organic matter, are rich in humus, have a depth of from one to three feet, are easily handled and produce generous crops of corn, wheat, tobacco, oats, barley, rye, flax, vegetables, fruits and all the domestic grasses. Underlying these warm upland soils is a substratum of reddish and white siliceous clays, also rich in the best elements of production, after exposure to the influence of frost and air. The

VERSATILITY OF PRODUCTION

in Washington county is worthy of note. It is the pride and boast of the farmers that these soils will produce in perfection everything grown between the cotton fields and the Northern Red river.

CORN

yields from 30 to 70 bushels per acre, according to season, soil and cultivation and is the leading staple, from 1,500,000 to 2,500,000 bushels being annually produced in the county.

WHEAT

of the best winter varieties, and of high grade, is considerably grown, the yield, with very indifferent cultivation, running from 10 to 30 bushels per acre. With such cultivation as is given this cereal in Pennsylvannia, Ohio and Michigan, an average yield of 25 bushels per acre could easily be maintained and the natural wheat lands of the county be made to produce an aggregate crop of 3,000,000 bushels of the finest white wheat.

BYE, OATS AND FLAX

are all at home here and give as ample returns for good cultivation as in any of the older eastern and northern States.

TOBACCO

of the best varieties, grading in the market with the best Virginia, or "Connecticut seed leaf" gives a yield of 800 to 1,500 pounds per acre and is a popular and profitable crop. Of the

OTHER PRODUCTIONS,

barley, broom-corn, hemp, sorghum, castor beans, cotton, Irish and sweet potatoes, all the field and garden vegetables and all the fruits of the medium latitudes do finely in these warm, rich soils. Washington county is

A ROYAL FRUIT COUNTRY.

It has the altitude, soil and climate for the perfection of apples, peaches, pears, cherries, plums, grapes and smaller garden fruits and is a veritable paradise for the production of these delicious treasures of the orchard and

vineyard, which never fail of a bountiful yield for all careful cultivators. The forests of the valleys and the mountains are richly festooned with

GIGANTIC WILD GRAPE VINES

Which frequently reach a diameter of 10, 14 and even 16 inches. Wild plums, cherries, mulberries, crabs and a multitude of smaller fruits grow in equal profusion. This whole region might be turned into

A NEW VINELAND,

Whose viutages, wine presses and wine vaults planted upon a thousand sunny slopes would rival the wine-growing and wine-making districts of France and Switzerland. Grapes of the finest size, color and flavor known to the continent, are grown here at a cost of one and two cents per pound. Indeed, the quality of all the fruits so easily and cheaply grown here, is equal to any produced in the famous growing districts of Michigan, Maryland, New Jersey, or California.

THE GRASSES

too, flourish in wonderful luxuriance and perfection. Not the prairies alone, but the entire wooded portions of the county bear a generous burden of strong, succulent and nutritious wild grasses, which the botanist finds here in more than 100 varieties—all of more or less value to the herdsman.

THE DOMESTIC GRASSES

have an equally luxurious growth and are much more tenacious than in the higher northern States. Red clover gives two strong crops in a season, affording in addition a fine autumn growth for pasturage well into the so-called winter months. Timothy makes a strong growth over the silicone clays. Orchard grass attains a wonderful growth in all these soils, and afford fresh grazing through all the winter season.

THE IMPERIAL BLUE GRASS,

Strong, tenacious and aggressive here as in old Kentucky, or Illinois, makes a fine showing on the older farms and is steadily advancing to the conquest of all the more valuable farm districts of the country. It is an indigenous growth here, as in the older States named and with orchard grass and white clover, which is also "to the manor born" makes, in this mild climate,

PERENNIAL GRAZING,

which, of all things, is the most desirable and material condition to successful stock husbandry. So far but slight attention has been paid to domestic grass-growing, but with the advent of a more industrious, enterprising and thrifty class of farmers, Washington County will prove a veritable

STOCK-GROWERS PARADISE.

Here are the wooded ravines, valleys and gulches to shelter stock through summer's heat and winter's storms; the endless profusion of native herbage for summer grazing in forest and prairie; the clear, cold streams and springs; the cheaply grown corn; the cheap lands for ranches and wide ranges for free grazing, and here the mild, genial, open winters, and all that is wanting to give the herdsman.

PERPETUAL PASTURAGE

is blue grass, orchard grass and the winter rye field, any or all of which are at the command of the thrifty farmer. Taking into account the crude ways of stock growing,

THE EXTENT OF THE INDUSTRY

is altogether surprising. The assessor's returns show an aggregate of 6,322 horses, 2,850 mules, 15,600 cattle, 17,000 sheep and 40,000 swine in the county. The yearly sales of fat cattle, pigs, sheep and surplus mules and horses will aggregate $1,000,000; a very handsome sum it is true, but not a fourth of the amount that might be realized if all the wild pasturage of the county were well utilized. I look upon this White and Arkansas river country as one of the finest stock-growing regions of the continent and it is most gratifying to note the rapid improvement of the herds and flocks in the hands of the more enterprising breeders of all kinds of stock. I want to say to the ambitious young stock men of the older and colder States, who are contending with high-priced lands, expensive feed, long, bleak winters and costly shelter, that here in Washington county, Arkansas, are

FIVE HUNDRED NATURAL STOCK RANCHES,

of 200 to 600 acres extent, and combining every advantage of water, timber, shelter, grass, free out-range, etc., which may be had for $1.50 to $8 per acre in the wild state, and half as many more improved stock farms, of 100 to 600 acres each, at $10 to $20 per acre in a country and climate where stock-growing may be pursued under the happiest conditions. The visitor from the Northern and Eastern States is surprised at the wonderful

NATURAL FACILITIES FOR DAIRYING

here, and more astonished that this splendid industry is almost universally neglected in a land of cold, rock springs, clear, rocky mountain streams and abundant grasses. St. Louis, Kansas City, Denver and the Texas cities are all superb markets for first class dairy products and all easily reached by rail from this region. The want of

RAILROAD FACILITIES

and of men and women skilled in the best ways of butter and cheese-making and wheat-growing, have kept these two great interests largely in

abeyance, but the recent completion of the St. Louis & San Francisco Railway from Pierce City to Fayetteville and its rapid extension southward to Fort Smith and Texas will quickly develop these and other much neglected resources of the country, by giving connections with Little Rock, Memphis and New Orleans on the South and Kansas City and St. Louis, with their great railway systems, to the West, North and East. There is

NO END OF CHEAP LANDS

In this county. Of the 552,000 acres, nearly, or quite, 150,000 acres still belong to the Government and are subject to entry under the homestead and pre-emption laws of Congress. Of the 400,000 acres entered and in the hands of resident and non-resident owners, less than 60,000 acres are in actual cultivation. A large per cent of these lands are smooth enough for cultivation and they rate in the market all the way from $1.50 to $10 per acre, according to location, face and soil.

IMPROVED FARMS

are worth from $10 to $25 per acre, according to location, soil and value of improvements, and the purchaser will frequently find cultivated estates in the market at about the cost of permanent improvements.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

of the county number 57, and are supported by a district tax and the interest on a permanent State and county school fund. The State Industrial University is located at the county seat, and there are several private schools of note in the county. The

RELIGIOUS INTERESTS

are represented by 50 churches, which are well fostered by public sentiment and the dozen or more denominations that flourish in this region. There are

FORTY FLOURING AND SAW MILLS

within the county, a third of which are driven by water power. These mills are well distributed over the country, as are the schools and churches, forming convenient and easily accessible, social, business, religious and educational rallying points for every neighborhood.

THE PEOPLE

of Washington county, 29,000 strong, represent all the States and territories, the provinces and Europe about 25 per cent of them hailing from the old free States. With few exceptions, they are the earnest, intelligent and enterprising; believe in free public schools and sustain them liberally; are friends and observers of law and order and in full sympathy with the progressive movements of the day. They are in high degree

HOSPITALS AND TOLERANT,

and express by word and deed a wish for the largest possible measure of northern and eastern immigration, capital and enterprise to aid in developing the enormous latent resource of the county. The newcomer is not questioned as to his religious, political or social antecedents, but is estimated alone for his manhood, weight of character and working ability. There is

NO PROSCRIPTION HERE

on account of politics, and political action and expression are as frank and free here as in New York or Illinois. Old Union and Confederate soldiers are working side by side by side in agriculture, commerce, professional life, religion and politics, with as much good feeling as anywhere in the Union.

FAYETTEVILLE,

the capital town of the county and the present terminus of the St. Louis, Arkansas & Texas branch of the St. Louis & San Francisco Railway, is centrally and handsomely located about 360 miles and southwest of St. Louis, was laid out in 1843, incorporated in 1866, and has a population of 2800. It is one of the most beautiful towns of its class in the Southwest, and has the fortune of

A CHARMING LOCATION

upon the crown of a commanding elevation overlooking a series of the loveliest valleys that ever lay in the south western sunshine. These pretty, inimitable valleys that seem to radiate in all directions from the city are flanked by Boston Mountains, along whose graceful slopes, from base to crown, nestle scores of elegant farms in happy alternation with delightful woodlands, the whole scene presenting a kaleidoscope of ever-changing light, and hillside and valley, meadow and grain field and timber-fringed streams, flowing down through leagues of green pasture land, giving unity and harmony to a landscape fairer than the fabled Eden. In the midst of these incomparable surroundings is the fairy city, with its stately old homes, its solid business blocks flanking the four sides of the public square; its substantial court house, elegant hostelries and well shaded avenues, refined and hospitable social life, and a commerce that many a metropolitan city might envy. Here too, are four well conducted public and private schools, nine churches, two able and influential journals, 45 mercantile houses, two banks, flouring, saw and planing mills, a foundry and plow factory and other evidences of moral and material prosperity. On a beautiful suburban mound is

THE NATIONAL CEMETERY,

a charming plat of seven acres, enclosed with a solid wall and embellished with delightful walks, drives, trees, shrubbery and countless floral wealth in

honor of the Union soldiers who fell at Pea Ridge and other neighboring battle grounds and lie beneath the perfect greensward that decks this lovely terraced hillside. On the opposite side of the town, in a beautiful, but somewhat neglected spot, like the Confederate dead who fell on the same battlefields.

THE BUSINESS MAN

of the city have a splendid field for extended commercial work, their trade reaching scores of miles southward and westward in to the neighboring counties and the Indian Territory. They are generally men of large mercantile experience, fine discipline and ample means are carrying heavy stocks, discount their bills of credit, conduct trade by the best metropolitan methods and are live, progressive and public-spirited men, whose presence and work would honor any city in the southwest.

THE BANKERS

of the city are worthy of note, alike for their financial soundness, fin executive ability and high standing in the business community. Wm. McIlroy is conducting a banking house which was established in 1871, is a man of large available capital, an old and successful merchant , has large real estate interests in the city and country, and is a strong man. Reed & Ferguson are doing a general banking business, which they organized in 1878 on a cash capital of $50,000, and are one of the strongest baking concerns in northwestern Arkansas. They also belong to the race of

SOLID MERCHANTS,

are carrying $18,000 stocks of general merchandise, have a yearly trade of $60,000, are capital business men, stand high and are sound as bullion.

The drug trade is finely represented by Gray & Hickman, with heavy stocks of drugs, medicines, paints, oils, stationery, fancy and kindred goods, an annual trade of $25,000 and an elegant establishment under the management of Mr. Hickman, a live Hoosier and a No. 1 business man. Dr. C.S. Gray, of this firm is an accomplished and popular physician and the house is in the best sense a strong one.

Dr. S. F. Paddock, also has a fine drug house, well stocked with everything in this line, has the agency of the American Power Co., and is doing a capital trade. Dr. Paddock is U.S. examining surgeon, an accomplished physician, a New Yorker and a public-spirited gentleman, whose opinion of this country and people fully justifies the high estimate placed upon both by the writer.

Geo. S. Albright carries $20,000 stocks of heavy and shelf hardware, stoves, tinware, farm machinery, steam engines, etc., and is driving a $50,000

trade. He handles the Champion reaper and mower, Wood's self-binder, and other first-class field machinery, leads the trade of the country in his line, is an inspiring leader in all public enterprises and a prime business man; has ample capital; discounts his bills, hails from Illinois, is one of the foremost men of the county, and speaks of the country and people in the brightest terms.

Jernigan, Botefuhr & Co., are also carrying heavy stocks of hardware, iron, steel stoves, mill and farm machinery and steam engines, have a $40,000 trade, are the pioneer hardware house of northwestern Arkansas rank with the ablest, most successful and enterprising concerns of this region and hold a high position in commercial circles.

Dr. R. Putnam & Son are driving a fine trade in shelf hardware, stoves, tinware, farm machinery and kindred stocks, and are a growing and prosperous firm. Dr. Putnam is an old and successful physician here, has an extensive trade in proprietary medicines of his compounding, hails from Illinois and is a firm believer in this country.

Wm. N. Crenshaw is also prospering in the hardware and farm machinery trade with full stocks, liberal sales and capital business ability. He comes from southwest Missouri and is greatly pleased with the country.

Alexander Hendry owns and operates the Fayetteville foundry and machine shops; is manufacturing cane mills, general mill machinery, plows and cultivators, on a good scale; does an extensive business in general repairing, employs a good force of skilled workmen, and is building up a splendid trade. Mr. Hendry is a broad-breasted, manly and genial Scotchman; came here from Michigan in 1866; is a strong, popular man and speaks in high praise of both country and people.

Mr. S.K. Stone, a merchant of 40 years experience here, and one of the ablest business men of the city, has recently retired with a handsome fortune, turning over to his sons, B.H. Stone & Co., an extensive general merchandise trade, which they are managing with sigual ability. Mr. Stone is, I believe, a North Carolinian, and one of the most genial of gentlemen.

C.W. Mulholland carries splendid stocks of staples and fancy groceries, wood and willow ware, queensware, etc., in which he has a jobbing and retail trade of over $40,000. He hails from South Carolina, leads in this line and is one of the most energetic, spirited and solid merchants in this county.

T.J. Rogers has fine, full stocks of furniture, upholstery, and undertaker's goods, etc., is doing a $10,000 trade, is a Tennessean, a capital merchant and a strong man.

The livery business is finely represented here by Draughon & Hanger, with a stud of 20 horses and a full line of elegant equipages. They handle the transfer business of the city, do a heavy business in all departments, are live and prosperous men and represent Louisiana and Virginia respectively. The

THE ESTATE MEN

of this city have an unusually fine field of operations and are making the most of it. Holsinger & Wall, both young Hawkeyes of capital ability, enterprise, and business discipline, have a large list of wild and improved lands which they are selling at from $3 to $15 per acre. They are also writing insurance in strong companies, making collections and abstracts of title, paying taxes and making investments for non-residents; are able lawyers, honorable and obliging gentlemen, stand high in the public favor, and will be pleased to answer all questions concerning this country.

Frank F. Smith has also a long list of wild lands and improved farms, at $3 to $30 per acre, and will answer all questions concerning the country. Mr. Smith was for years deputy county clerk is familiar with land titles, pays taxes and furnishes abstracts of title and, like the other gentlemen named, is a square manly man.

C. R. Bnekuer is also in the field with a good list of wild and improved lands at current prices and attends to collections, tax paying, abstracts and all branches of the business. The

PROFESSIONAL AND OFFICIAL

Men of city and county, are, as a whole, noteworthy for culture, native ability, practical talent and other elements of strength in the self-commanding, successful professional and clerical man. Hon. T.M. Lunter, one of the ablest members of the Arkansas bar, and since 1872, the distinguished representative in Congress from this district, has been in legal practice since 1853, is a strong, self-educated, self-reliant and influential man, and an honor to the profession.

Hugh A. Dinsmore, the prosecuting attorney for this judicial district, is a brilliant and growing lawyer, of enviable influence and standing.

B.R. Davidson, one of the brightest and strongest members of the county bar, has been in practice here a dozen years, hails from Illinois, and is a popular and public-spirited gentleman.

Hon. A.M. Wilson, the oldest lawyer in the county and formerly United States attorney, district attorney, and a member of the State Legislature, is a lawyer and legislator of commanding influence and ability, to whose personal efforts Fayetteville is largely indebted for the location of

the State Industrial University and the new railway at this point. Mr. Wilson is a great-hearted, public-spirited man of fine judgment, clear perception and genial temperament, whose life has been largely devoted to the advancement of his State and county, and has enviable standing throughout the commonwealth.

Hon. Lafayette Gregg is also one of the foremost lawyers of the county and State, whose public service as a member of the legislature, district attorney, chancellor of the State, and judge of the supreme court, have given him wide and honorable distinction. He was an influential worker for the location of the Industrial University at this place, has been a member of its board of curators since '74, is the owner of a large and valuable landed estate in this county, and is a brave, strong, manly man of enviable gifts and record.

Holsinger & Wall are a late and valuable acquisition to the local bar. They are young attorneys of the character, ability, discipline, energy and ambition, that bring sure and enduring success in this noble profession. C.R. Backner has been a member of this bar since '68, and is accounted an excellent lawyer. Among the county officials is Mr. J.B. Rainwater, the efficient county treasurer, and formerly an influential member of the county court. Mr. Rainwater is a native of Tennessee, one of the foremost men of the county, and for many years has conducted an extensive lumber trade in this city. Hugh F. Regan, the county clerk, is a capable clerical worker and a native of the county. A.S. Gregg, now on his third term of the circuit court clerkship, is a very capable and popular officer, has a handsome farm near town, and is named to me as one of the best men in the county. C.M. Henry, one of the able stock farmers and dealers of the county, is rendering efficient service as high sheriff and is a prime Kentuckian. I remember among the prominent official and visiting friends of the Industrial University. Col. J.M. Johnson, one of the trustees of that institution, formerly Lieutenant-Governor and secretary of the State, and at the close of the late rebellion a leading member of the Arkansas delegation in Congress. Col. Johnson is a native of Tennessee, has been a prominent citizen of Arkansas for more than forty years, is a warm and influential friend of education, immigration, and indeed every movement for the advancement of his adopted State. He is a gentleman of genial social ways, unusual ability, large influence and high standing throughout the State, is a resident of Madison county and a man to be honored and remembered. Beyond the health and beauty of the city and its surroundings, the chief attraction is

THE ARKANSAS INDUSTRIAL UNIVERSITY.

This noble institution was founded upon a valuable grant of public land made by Congress to the State of Arkansas for the establishment of a seminary "to teach such branches of learning as are related to agriculture and the mechanic arts, without excluding other scientific and classical studies, and including military tactics." Upon the formal establishment of the school by the State Legislature, in accordance with the act of Congress, its friends secured for it this

FORTUNATE LOCATION

upon the finest elevation in Northwest Arkansas, in the midst of such social and material surroundings as rarely fall to the lot of a great institution of learning. The next stop in the successful organization of the school was to open and conduct it upon the

UNIVERSITY PLAN,

embracing a series of complete and thoroughly organized schools, each complete in itself, but forming part of a comprehensive university system, on "the American plan." In keeping with this purpose, classical, scientific, elective, normal, agricultural, military, musical, engineering and prepatory courses of study have been organized, and are pursued, each under instructors of eminent fitness for the work in hand. This noble school is made

A REAL UNIVERSITY,

which, by virtue of its generous endowment, splendid buildings, comprehensive organization, broad and liberal curriculum, large and able faculty and the happy results already attained in its educational work, has become the pride of the entire State, and is an honor alike to the nation, the State and the healthful and beautiful city in which it is located.

THE WORK OF INSTRUCTION

Is as thorough and practical as the plan is comprehensive. While the esthetic advantages of a thorough training in letters and science are open to the student, it is the aim of the faculty to give practical turn to every department of study and to send out men and women wisely and well fitted for all the higher walks of a useful and honorable life. The degrees of Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Agriculture, Bachelor of Letters and Civil Engineer, are conferred upon students entitled to them by virtue of a satisfactory examination in the respective courses. Practical and theoretic agriculture and mechanics are taught under favorable conditions and students who desire to do so, are provided with a moderate amount of agricultural and mechanical labor at reasonable compensation. The library and scientific

apparatus and collections are being steadily augmented by appropriations and private contributions.

THE UNIVERSITY BUILDING,

which is 214 x 122 feet upon the ground, is five stories high, solidly constructed of brick and stone, surmounted by a fine mansard attic, and for effective design and elegance of finish is certainly one of the finest college structures in the West.

THE COST OF A THOROUGH EDUCATION

at this institution is almost nominal in comparison with the expense of college life at the older schools of the East. Tuition and incidental expenses are unusually low and excellent board may be secured in good private homes at very moderate rates. The university is largely attended by the sons and daughters of the best families in this and the neighboring States, the catalogue for '78 and '79 showing a total enrollment of 420. I hear that the last college year closed with a much larger number and that the university is rapidly growing in popular favor and, under its present able executive, promises to become one of the strongest of our western universities. It has certainly made wonderful progress since its formal opening in 1871. I am without data concerning

THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

of the university, which was organized in 1879, with an able faculty, and located in Little Rock, where ample hospital and other facilities will largely contribute to its success.

THE NEWSPAPERS

of the city are fully up to the dignity of their educational, commercial and material surroundings. The Sentinel is published by the Sentinel Publishing Co., and edited by J.R. Pettigrew, and the Democrat is edited and published by E.B. & W. B. Moore. Both are democratic journals of decided ability and influence. This charming tree-empowered city of superb schools, clear springs and refined and hospitable people, is

RAPIDLY BUILDING UP

under the stimulus of the new railway, and with the growth of the university and the development of the broad and rich tributary country is destined, in the near future, to have a population of 5000 and a yearly trade of at least $3,000,000. Five miles southward is

FARMINGTON,

a pleasant little hamlet, where Mr. J.H. Cato is running a steam flouring-mill and manufacturing half a hundred wagons annually. He is a live, prosperous and capable business man, has been operating here half a dozen years, hails

from Illinois, and like most eastern people, expresses great pleasure of the country. Ten miles north of Fayetteville, on the line of the St. Louis & San Francisco Railway, is the bright and growing little town of

SPRINGDALE,

with a population of 300. This place was platted in 1873, has a fine grain elevator, flouring, saw and woolen mills, a tannery, a dozen mercantile houses, two hotels and two brick-yards, the usual complement of mechanic shops, a fine public school, the Shiloh Institute, an academic school, the high grade, two churches, a fine exhibit of pretty homes, but *not a single saloon*. It is finely situated on a broad and beautiful plateau, outside the mountain range, in the midst of a beautiful and fertile woodland country, of productive "mulatto" soil; is the railway shipping and distributing point for half a dozen interior villages, and has a heavy and rapidly growing trade. The town has an ample supply of pure spring water and is within a half hours drive of a valuable water power. Wild lands in this portion of the county are selling at from $4 to $10, and improved farms at $10 to $25 per acre. Town lots are also very reasonable and the inducements to settlement, either in town or country, are certainly as good as in any part of this beautiful Ozark region. The

LEADING BUSINESS MEN

of Springdale are of a live, progressive and ambitious order and are turning their fine opportunity to the best account. H. Daily & Co. dealers in drugs, groceries and kindred goods, carry ample stocks and have a large trade which they are steadily building up. Dr. Daily of this firm has been in medical practice and a minister of the gospel for 60 years, is a gentleman of fine ability and standing and a native of Virginia. Mr. Pollock, also of this firm, is from Alabama, has been forty years in Arkansas and is a most excellent man. H.A. Daily, the junior member of the firm, is a prime business man and like the older members, is greatly respected for his manly qualities.

Peel & Winton are driving a capital trade in drugs, druggists sundries, books, stationery, etc., have a model store and are a live enterprising firm. Both are superior business men and stand high in the community. Mr. Peel has a pretty suburban farm which he proposes to sell for residence lots, is trading in general merchandise at Avoca, in Benton county, and is a strong man. Mr. Winton, who has charge of the business here, is a Missourian and a royal young business man.

Joe & W.H. Holcomb own and operate the grain warehouse and have recently established a forwarding and commission business. They are dealing in hides, grain, wool and all classes of farm produce, handle groceries on a

good scale and are one of the ablest and most enterprising houses in the county. Mr. Joe Holcomb has a valuable addition to the town, which he is selling out in residence and business lots at very low figures, as an inducement to settlement. His entire suburban estate of 250 acres is finely situated for residence, business, and out-lots, and will ultimately be improved as town property. He owns and runs a fine livery, feed and sale stable, has honored the circuit court clerkship of the county with popular and efficient service, has been 40 years in the county, is a native of Indiana and one of the prime, sterling, go-ahead and public-spirited men of the region.

The Springdale flouring mills, owned and operated by Retros & Harris, have three run of barns, are equipped with improved modern machinery and driven by steam power and in the hands of these experienced millers are doing a large and prosperous merchant and custom business.

The Springdale woolen mills are owned and operated by W.D. Haxton & Co., have 300 spindles, half a dozen looms and several carding machines for custom work. The enterprising owners are manufacturing cloths, flannels, yarns and kindred goods and like the flouring mill men, above named, are among the staunchest business operators in the county.

H. G. Hunt is completing a fine storehouse and is about to stock it with clothing and gents furnishing goods to meet a pressing local demand. He is recently from Indiana, owns a beautiful 300 acre farm near town, is a capital young business man and is in love with the country. Mr. Hunt is a son of Dr. John Hunt, lat an influential Indiana State Senator, who will soon settle here and very likely attract many of of his old friends and neighbors to settlement in this charming portion of the county.

James A. Coffelt is driving a strong and prosperous trade in general hardware, stoves, tinware and farm machinery, hails from Tennessee, and is one of the most popular men and dealers in the community.

Judge A.J. Hale, attorney and real estate agent, is the only practicing lawyer in the town. He is a sound lawyer, of unusual promise, is building up a fine business in real estate and collections, has the confidence of the community, is a popular gentleman and will be pleased to confer by letter or personally with any parties desirous of settling in the region. Springdale has so many advantages of location and productive tributary country that it is likely to become one of the most populous and important towns in this portion of the State.

PLANNED GIFTS

Making charitable gifts to the Washington County Historical Society will enable it to continue and expand its programs.

If you are making regular gifts to the Washington County Historical Society or would like to start, you may find it beneficial to set up or give:

1. A **charitable lead trust** that will pay income to WCHS for a set period.
2. A **charitable remainder trust** that will allow you to transfer property to a trust set up for WCHS without paying capital gains tax on the sale of the property.
3. **Appreciated securities** at their current value and take an income tax deduction for the year up to 30% of adjusted gross income.
4. **Gifts from your retirement account** that could be an integral part of planning for those withdrawals.
5. **An irrevocable life insurance trust** that could own your life insurance, when it no longer serves its purpose, to make a charitable gift that could reduce the estate's tax bill.

There are a number of ways to enhance your retirement plans while still providing for your charitable interests and making gifts you never dreamed possible. Consult with your financial advisor on other ways you can make charitable donations. These planned gifts will provide added tax benefits for you and your heirs while helping to support the vital mission of the Washington County Historical Society for years to come.

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